

## REMARKS

All claims stand rejected as supposedly unpatentable because of US Pat. No. 6821613 to Kagi et al. ("Kagi").

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Claim 1, which is the sole independent claim, has been amended. It is suggested that claim 1 is now allowable over the cited reference, and thus all of the claims are allowable over the cited reference.

**New claim 1** with the **features a – f** is amended by the underlined expressions:

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- a A structural component made of long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic material with integrated continuous fiber-reinforcements, the component comprising:
- b - at least three separate, single individually integrated, shaped continuous-fiber-profiles, having a lengthwise extension and being separated from each other,
- c - the at least three single continuous-fiber-profiles along their length are extending into different directions with a distance between each other and are running together at a location and are forming a non-flat connecting area,
- d - the at least three single continuous-fiber-profiles, at the location where they run together, defining a three-dimensionally developed intersection point,
- e - wherein at the intersection point at least a first continuous-fiber-profile lies in an upper plane of the intersection point, at least a second continuous-fiber-profile lies a lower plane of the intersection point, and wherein at least a third continuous-fiber-profile with a vertical orientation is located between the first and second continuous-fiber-profiles;
- f - wherein from the intersection point the first and the second continuous-fiber-profiles along their length are extending into a first direction and the third continuous-fiber-profile along its length is extending into a different second direction,
- g - wherein the continuous-fiber-profiles are joined together by the long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic material at the intersection point.

These limitations are clearly shown in the figures, especially in Figs. 1a, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11.

**In feature b:** there is a limitation that "the single ... continuous fiber-profiles have a lengthwise extension and are separated from each other".

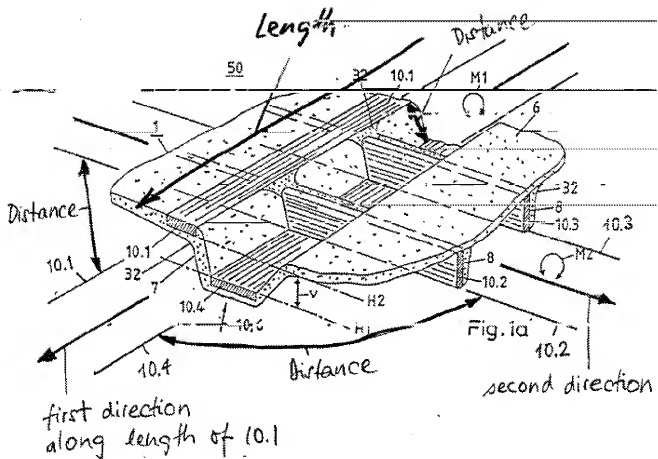
- 5 **In feature c:** there is a limitation that the continuous-fiber-profiles "along their length are extending into different directions with a distance between each other...and are forming a non-flat connecting area".

Since the continuous-fiber-profiles are extending into different directions consequently there is a  
10 distance between them.

**In feature f:** a limitation has been added to clearly specify that the single continuous-fiber-profiles are extending into different directions along their length:

- 15 the first and the second continuous-fiber-profile along their length are extending into a first direction an the third continuous-fiber-profile along its length is extending into a different second direction.

In the enclosed illustration relating to Fig. 1a (and also in Fig. 8a) the horizontal single continuous-  
20 fiber-profiles 10.1, 10.4 along their length are extending into a first direction and the single profile 10.2 (with a vertical orientation) along its length is extending into a different second direction, and hence there is a distance between them.



**Reference Kāgi (US 6,821,613)**

5 The cited Reference Kāgi ('613) does not disclose nor indicate nor show in any Figure such a structure. The Reference Kāgi ('613) discloses an entirely different structural component where continuous-fiber strands are interconnected and have flat internal connecting areas (7) between two continuous-fiber strands (3.1, 3.2). All these connecting areas (7) are flat.

**10 Nowhere in Kāgi is disclosed:**

- at least three separate, single continuous-fiber-profiles, having a lengthwise extension ...

- the at least three single continuous-fiber-profiles along their length are extending into different directions with a distance between each other and are running together at a location and are forming a non-flat connection area,
- defining a three-dimensionally developed intersection point, ...

- 5      ● wherein from the intersection point the first and the second continuous-fiber-profiles along their length are extending into a first direction and the third continuous-fiber-profile along its length is extending into a different second direction.

Specifically the cited Fig. 8 and Fig. 24c of the Reference Kāgi each only show one single combined  
 10 profile structure along its length extending into only one direction and without such a three-dimensionally developed intersection point (50).

Fig. 8 shows one profile structure 26 which consists of three continuous-fiber strands 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 which are entirely fused together along their length and which form one single U-shaped profile, and  
 15 which along its length is extending into one (first) direction. As is illustrated in this enclosed Fig. 8 there are no three single continuous-fiber-profiles separated from each other and extending into a first and a second direction. (The ribs 28 of this profile 26 consist of long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic material.)

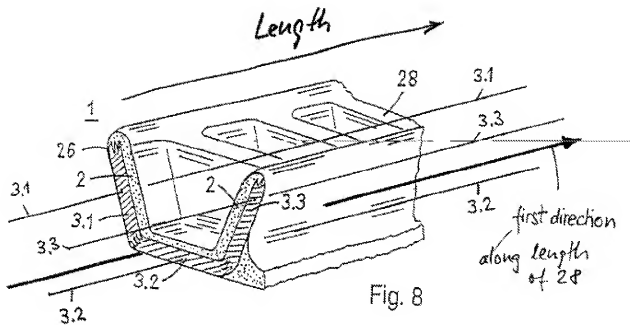
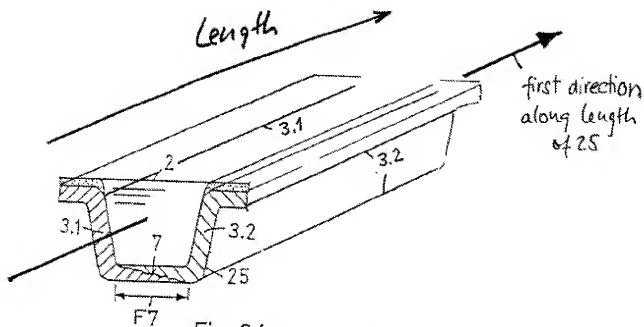


Fig. 24c shows a cross-section of an U-shaped combined profile 25, very similar to the profile 26 of Fig. 8, but consisting of only two continuous-fiber strands 3.1, 3.2 which are entirely fused together over their length and with ribs of long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic material 2. This combined profile 25 with the two fused together continuous-fiber strands 3.1, 3.2 lengthwise only extends into one (first) direction along the length of the profile 25 - as is illustrated in the enclosed Fig. 24c.



Here also there are no at least three single continuous-fiber-profiles, separated with a distance from each other, along their extending into different directions and forming a three-dimensionally developed intersection point according to features b – f of new claim 1.

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Also in all further Figs. of Kāgi (613) there is no indication of the structural component according to the invention with all features **b, c, d, e, f, g**.

Since the new amended independent claim 1 should be allowable also the depending claims 2 – 3 and 5 – 19 should be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

15 /s/

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